

REMARKS

By this amendment, claim 8 has been amended and claims 9-18 have been added.

Accordingly, claims 8-18 are currently pending in the application, of which claim 8 is independent. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification.

In view of the above Amendments and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,476,894 issued to Kikkawa, *et al.* (“Kikkawa”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 8 recites:

“8. A liquid crystal display (LCD), comprising:
a first substrate;
a pixel electrode formed on the first substrate;
a second substrate;
a common electrode formed on the second substrate;
a first insulating layer formed on at least one of the first
substrate and the second substrate;
wherein *a gap between the pixel electrode and the common
electrode is varied by the first insulating layer.*”

As shown in Fig. 1A, Kikkawa discloses the pixel electrode 5 formed between the substrate 4 and the orientation control slope portion 6, and the orientation control slope portion 6 does not change the gap between the pixel electrode 5 and the opposite electrode 9. Thus, it is

submitted that Kikkawa fails to disclose or suggest “a gap between the pixel electrode and the common electrode is varied by the first insulating layer”, as recited in claim 8.

For this reason, it is submitted that claim 8 is patentable over Kikkawa. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claim 8.

Other Matters

In this response, claims 9-18 are newly added. These claims are dependent from claim 8. Since it is believed that claim 8 is patentable over Kikkawa, claims 9-18 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.


CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submit that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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